



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
Karel van den BERG
Appl. No. 09/993,961
Filed: November 27, 2001
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
CLEANING A MILK LINE SYSTEM

Confirmation No.: 9011
Art Unit: 1792
Examiner: Saeed T. Chaudhry
Atty. Docket: 04132.0108.CPUS01

DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF PETITION TO REVIVE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

- 1) I, Frans J.A. de Groen, am the representative of the Assignee of the above-referenced application and have been responsible for the prosecution of the application since November 2005;
- 2) our previous U.S. patent counsel, Mr. Penrose Albright, died late last year;
- 3) we were informed of Mr. Albright's death by letter from his son. This letter further informed us that the entire law firm would, because of Mr. Albright's death, be dissolved immediately;
- 4) review of the patent applications being handled by Mr. Albright reveals that Mr. Albright did not respond to an outstanding Final Office Action issued in the above-referenced application and that this application went abandoned; and
- 5) the entire delay in filing the required reply to the Final Office Action from the due date for the required reply until the filing of a grantable petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed herewith, was unintentional.

Respectfully submitted,

F.J.A. de Groen
Dutch Patent Attorney

Date: February 28, 2008